

ABSTRACT

Apparatus for providing purge gas protection to equipment requiring operator touch access. The apparatus includes:

- a) a frame engaging the equipment to be protected;
- b) a source of purging gas connected to the frame and an outlet in the frame, the purging gas passing through the outlet to the ambient environment;
- c) a flexible window mounted on the frame, the window having sufficient flexibility as to allow an operator to press the window against the protected equipment as to activate the equipment; and
- d) a detector signaling loss of purging gas pressure within the frame.

The frame may be electrically conductive so that it acts as a spark arrestor.